

Message Text

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ACTION OS-03

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1353

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 1837

DEPT FOR A/OS, NEA/EX

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASCHN SY

SUBJ: ASSISTANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL DAMASCUS

REF: DAMASCUS 1427

1. EMBASSY IN THE REFTEL REQUESTED DEPARTMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR UPGRADING THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL DAMASCUS. FORMS REQUIRED BY 2 FAM WERE POUCHED TO A/OS, VIA BEIRUT, ON AUGUST 5, 1974. AMBASSADOR MURPHY DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH MR. GORDON PARSONS IN MID-AUGUST.

2. THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL (GRADES KINDERGARTEN THRU TENTH) IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN ON SEPTEMBER 16 BUT STILL REQUIRES FOR THE UPPER GRADES A SCIENCE TEACHER AND AN AMERICAN HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER. SINCE THE SCHOOL HAS NO PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF ONE OF THE ABOVE TWO WERE ABLE ALSO HANDLE PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

3. IF POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT THE ABOVE DESCRIBED TEACHERS COULD BE RECRUITED AND ARRANGE TO ARRIVE IN DAMASCUS IN TWO WEEKS TIME ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE TO POSTPONE THE SCHOOL'S OPENING UNTIL SEPTEMBER 25.

4. MR. UCELLUS, OF THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL BEIRUT, UNCLASSIFIED

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WILL BE IN DAMASCUS ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5 TO VISIT

THE SCHOOL AND MAKE SUITABLE RECOMMENDATIONS. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE MR. UCELLUS' VISIT IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE DEPARTMENT WOULD PROVIDE ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS BY RETURN IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

1. CAN THE ABOVE MENTIONED TEACHERS, A MARRIED COUPLE WOULD BE DESIREABLE, BE RECRUITED AND ARRANGE TO ARRIVE IN DAMASCUS BY SEPT. 26?

2. THE HIGHEST PAID TEACHER AT THE SCHOOL MAKES \$3,000 PER YEAR. ARE WE CORRECT IN ASSUMING THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL PROVIDE FUNDS TO COVER THE SALARIES, TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM DAMASCUS AND HOUSING FOR THE TWO TEACHERS?

5. WILL THE DEPARTMENT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF LABORATORY EQUIPMENT FOR THE SCIENCE PROGRAM AND FOR BOOKS TO BEEF-UP THE SCHOOLS LIBRARY WHICH IS NOW PRACTICALLY NON-EXISTANT.
MURPHY

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NNN

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